



#### Success With Alfalfa.

Previous to five years ago most of the attempts to grow alfalfa in Illinois and neighboring states had resulted in failures, but since that time there have been many successes, and these successes have led many farmers to embark quite heavily in the growing of alfalfa. To a large extent perhaps the successful growing of this depends on the proper inoculation of the soil with the bacteria that makes the nodule in which is gathered the nitrogen from the air to be changed into a form that can later be used by the rootlets of the plants for food. The sending out by the Illinois experiment station of large quantities of inoculated soil has been a step in advance and has commenced the inoculation of the soil in many widely separated sections. In the meantime the apparent fact that the bacteria that works on sweet clover is the same that works on alfalfa is another sign pointing to the successful growing of alfalfa in states where it has been little grown in the past.

There are many sections of Illinois and Michigan where the writer has seen sweet clover growing in abundance, and it is very likely that alfalfa on such lands will prove successful. Perhaps one reason why alfalfa has not in the past done well on such lands is that the bacteria on the sweet clover did not come into contact with the roots of the alfalfa. Sweet clover does not in the main grow in cultivated fields, but by the hard roadside. In fact it is averse to cultivation. We would suggest to our readers that those living in a region where sweet clover grows thickly by the roadside should sow some alfalfa in a cultivated field and carry some soil from the roadside where the sweet clover grows for inoculation, and at the same time plant a patch of alfalfa in a place distant from the places where the sweet clover and other alfalfa are growing, but on the same kind of soil. This latter will be a check plot by which the success of the other treatment can be judged.

A few cases of this kind will prove of little value, but there should be several hundreds of farmers that are in a position to make this experiment this spring. The results may be far reaching, for if a way is found to grow alfalfa successfully in the counties where it is not now grown it will add immensely to the profits of the farms in such localities.

#### Green Manuring Crops.

There are many soils that are not benefited by green manuring crops. Such soils are those already rich in nitrogen and in humus. An investigation by the University of Illinois has shown that on many of the soils in Illinois an addition of humus and of nitrogen would be a positive detriment. This leads to the remark that we must have a reason for every farm operation. The green manure crop is needed on the soil that is deficient in humus and nitrogen, but is labor lost on many other soils. It is obvious that we cannot lay down rules that can be followed blindly on all farms. The green manuring crop is valuable where it is needed, but worthless or worse, where it is not needed. The intelligence of every farmer must determine the necessity for each operation on the farm.

Many failures with incubators are due entirely to ignorance in those trying to run them. In this, as in everything else, a person must learn how.

In getting wheat or other small grain seed from neighbors there is always the danger of bringing in trouble some weed seeds.

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The advanced woman spends much thought and discourse on how to manage a husband. The average woman thinks only of how to manage.—New York Telegraph.

#### OVERHEARD ON THE PIKE.

Mr. Easy—"Why should people visiting The Exposition at night, use more Allen's Foot-Ease than in daytime?"

Miss Fouts—"Because under the brilliant illumination of the grounds, every foot becomes an acre!"

Mr. Easy—"Fair, Only fair! Pray, conduct me to the nearest drug store and I promise never to accept a substitute for you or for Allen's Foot-Ease."

FOOT NOTE—The teams will be made one in June.

The superior board of health's reports there is one new case of yellow fever on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. Vera Cruz reports no new cases.

#### Another One.

T. W. Alexander, Brasken, Mo., says: "I had a chance to purchase and use one bottle Hunt's Lightning Oil. I think it the best liniment I ever saw." Mr. Alexander speaketh wisely and truly.  
25 and 50c bottles.

#### Their Good "Feature."

Tom (at the lunch counter)—Pretty tough doughnuts, these.

Dick—One good thing about them, though.

Tom—And what's that, for heaven's sake?

Dick—The hole—that part you don't have to chew, you know.—Boston Transcript.

The Best Results in Starching can be obtained only by using Defiance Starch, besides getting 4 oz. more for same money—no cooking required.

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